

# Homestead Farm R. O. P. News



Published quarterly by E. J. Morgan and G. C. Morgan, Breeders of the Homestead R. O. P. Strain of S. C. Rhode Island Reds. Address all correspondence to Homestead Farm, Newtown, Connecticut.



Newtown

Fall and Winter 1934

Connecticut

## Announcement of a New Homestead Service

**T**HIS issue of Homestead Farm R. O. P. News inaugurates a New Service to our customers. We hope that the information published in each issue will prove helpful and worthwhile. After reading it we would appreciate it if you will write us a note and tell us your opinion.

If you have any poultry questions which you would like to ask, please send them along, too. In answering questions, we will tell you exactly what we have done at Homestead Farm. In other words, the information will be based on our own practical experience.

The reason why we decided to publish Homestead Farm R. O. P. News is that each season many of our customers ask us how we feed our birds, how we brood chicks, how we manage the pullets, etc.

To write this information fully in a personal letter takes several pages and even then we find that we can't begin to cover all points as they should be covered. And so, in order to give better service, we decided to have the information printed.

Homestead Farm R. O. P. News will be published quarterly. The January issue will be devoted entirely to our methods of Brooding Chicks. The April Issue will describe our range methods. The July issue will contain information on housing and caring for the Pullets and finally the October issue

which will describe winter management of our Reds.

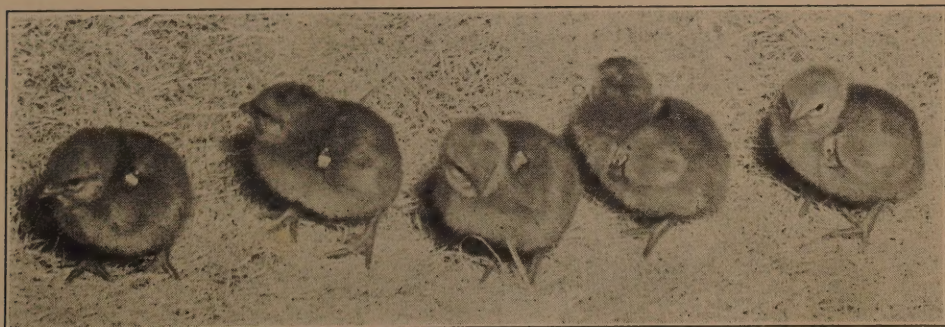
Please bear in mind that in no case do we claim infallibility for our methods. Nor do we seek to supplant the Poultry Extension Service of the State Agricultural Colleges. In fact, we strongly urge all our customers to work closely with the Poultry Extension Service of the College in their respective states.

Nor do we attempt to influence any customer to change his methods to conform to ours. Many of our customers have well established and successful methods of their own. It is our belief that any program which has proven successful should be changed only with caution.

At the same time, we notice that some of the most experienced Poultrymen and Hatcherymen in visiting our farm, often ask the most questions about our methods. So Homestead Farm R. O. P. News is for them as well as for beginners.

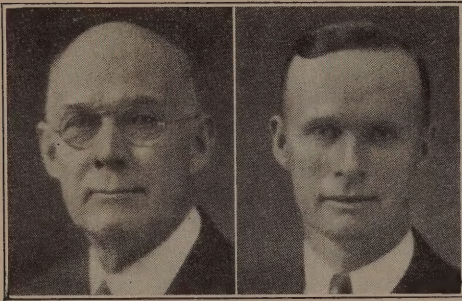
The next issue will contain some valuable facts on a program of Flock Improvement by using genuine Pedigreed Stock as well as many worthwhile Brooding suggestions.

**"Homestead Reds Break R. O. P. Record." See Page 2 for Details.**



Homestead Wingbanded R. O. P. Chicks, Pedigree hatched from Individual R. O. P. Matings. These chicks are now fully matured into R. O. P. Cockerels and Pedigree Pullets. Write us for prices on choice Breeding Cockerels.





E. J. MORGAN      G. C. MORGAN  
R. O. P. Breeders of S. C. R. I. Reds

## Homestead Reds Break R. O. P. Record

According to an unofficial tabulation of our R. O. P. Records we find that up to November 1st, 1934, 340 Birds have finished their year's record and that 185 more will finish during November. 172 Birds or 50.06 per cent have qualified for R. O. P. which is an entirely new record for Homestead Reds, and which is also 24.54 per cent better than or nearly double our previous six year average. In regard to livability 94.0 per cent of the birds are still in the pens; Average Flock production to date is 204 eggs per bird; Average egg size is between 25-26 oz. per dozen; Average body weights of the entire flock is 6.3 pounds per bird. These figures offer substantial R. O. P. Proof of the all-around Breeding Worth of Homestead Strain.

Ever since the start of the R. O. P. Breeding Work in Connecticut Homestead Strain of S. C. R. I. Reds has qualified the highest percentage of Pullets for R. O. P. Certificates of any Breeder.

And no one thing is more significant of the constant improvement in our Birds than the record listed above which is the highest peak of development they have ever attained.

To qualify for an R. O. P. Certificate a Pullet must lay 200 Eggs or more averaging to weigh 24 ounces per dozen or more. In addition she must be free from standard disqualification and vigorous physical appearance.

Please look at the Livability Record. Of the 535 Pullets entered under R. O. P. Supervision last Fall only 32 died from all causes to date.

We believe this record, when considered with our annual R. O. P. Records since 1927, fully justifies the statement that Homestead Reds are one of the outstanding strains of Poultry in America, today.

All Homestead Reds Pullorum Clean  
(no reactors to B. W. D.)  
for Eleven Consecutive Years

## The Baby Chick Code

The Breeder-Hatchery Code authority will continue. More emphasis will be put on actual improvement of Breeding Quality and on Disease Eradication Programs. Less emphasis on price fixing except that Breeders and Hatcherymen will be prevented from selling chicks at less than actual cost of production.

If a code is necessary, we believe this is a step in the right direction. That is, every effort should be made to improve the real quality of chicks. It is no secret that many chick producers have turned out chicks of very inferior quality in an effort to sell at a lower price than anyone else.

## Shortage in Eggs and Poultry Meat Coming

(From U. S. D. A. and other Reliable Reports)

Between 10% and 15% fewer chicks were hatched in 1934 than in the preceding year. At the same time, the marketing of Poultry Stock all over the country has reduced the total number of birds by at least 10%. In large sections of the Middlewest, many Farms have sold nearly all poultry, keeping just enough to supply the family tables.

For the next 18 months indications are that Egg Production will be far below the 5-year average and poultry meat prices will be more favorable from next Spring on than for several years past.

It is well to remember that cattle, sheep and hogs have been marketed in large numbers and therefore a shortage of red meat will develop next Spring. High prices for red meat are sure to effect Poultry Meat prices favorably.

## Feed Prices

(From Opinions of Expert Crop Reporters in Chicago)

Feed Prices have reached their highest level and no substantial increase in price is expected during the next 18 months. In fact, the prospects indicate that prices will tend to recede gradually as the 1935 harvest season approaches.

The crop shortage brought a wave of gambling during the Summer, but back of the drought shortage was a huge carry over which with this year's crop is enough for all needs until the 1935 crop. The harvesting starts in June in Texas.

These are the reasons why the Egg-Feed ratio is becoming increasingly more favorable to Eggs.

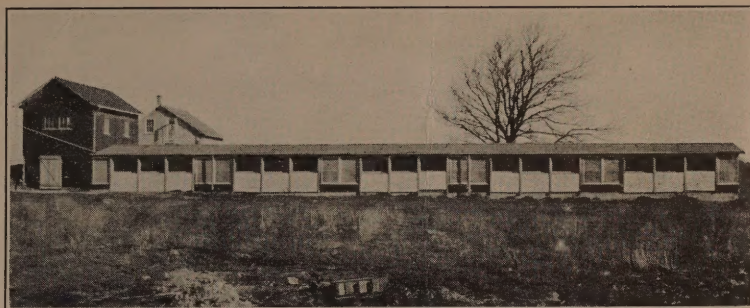
## Inflation

The inflation scare is with us again with many authorities predicting that further inflation is bound to come. If this proves to be true, then all prices will advance and the Poultryman with a large laying flock will be in a still more favorable position.

This does not mean that we favor inflation at all but merely that we do try to look ahead and foresee any conditions which may affect the Poultry Industry.



The photo at the right shows the Connecticut type laying house where our Pullets are housed under R.O.P. Supervision. It is a very satisfactory and economical House for Connecticut conditions.



## How Homestead Reds Are Housed and Fed

During the past summer, we have had visits from an unusually large number of Farm Organizations as well as Individuals. Partly because of the Records our birds have made over a long period of years and especially this past year, many seem to think that we pamper Homestead Reds.

This is not true. In fact, we treat them rough. There is no heat in the houses and no warm water. We do not use forcing methods or feeds.

### Use New England Conference Mash

Our idea in caring for our Layers and Breeders is to stick to a simple easy-to-follow program. This program is closely patterned after the one recommended by the Connecticut Agricultural College.

We feed the regular "Producer" mash manufactured by the Eastern States (Farmers Exchange) which is the New England conference formula.

Our scratch grain is made up of cracked corn and whole wheat. In addition, we feed sprouted oats. We use a shallow litter of shavings and straw. It is changed about every 4 weeks or oftener if necessary.

Water is piped into the houses and supplied to each pen in automatic waterers which are scrubbed daily. In winter, lights

are provided for the pullets from 6 a. m. to 6 p. m.

### Feeding Routine

Mash with oil is fed in open hoppers each day. The pullets must clean it up entirely before a new supply is provided. But this does not mean that the pullets are ever without mash. This is the economical way to feed mash without waste.

Early every morning a feeding of two pounds of dry oats, germinated, and mixed with an equal amount of semi-solid butter-milk is fed in the hoppers.

We keep a bucket of whole wheat hung from the ceiling in each pen. As we go through the pens to trap the layers seven to eight times each day a handful or two of wheat is scattered in the litter.

We watch the condition of the pullets closely. They run to meet us when we enter and crowd around us until we throw out the wheat. Then they scatter and scratch for the kernels.

Pullets which act like this are eager, active and always hungry for grain. This is the way they should be.

At 5:15 p. m. we give them a heavy feeding of scratch. We send them to bed at six

(Continued on page 4)

## Use This Coupon for a Free Copy of Our Catalog

Homestead Farm,  
Newtown, Conn.

Please send me your Catalog ☐ and Price List for R. O. P. Breeding Cockerels ☐  
and 1935 Chicks ☐. (Check)

Name .....

Address .....

Postoffice ..... State .....



**Homestead Chicks Available  
Every Month from  
December to June 20th**

**Our Trapnest and Pedigree  
Breeding Work—**

is under the supervision of the Connecticut R. O. P. Association. Our plant is inspected once each month by the Official R. O. P. Inspector for sanitation and management. In addition, the inspector takes charge of all Trapnesting, weighing of Eggs and Birds during these Inspection Visits.

All Trapnest-Pedigree Records are carefully checked by the Poultry Department of the Connecticut Agricultural College at Storrs, Connecticut, where complete information about the Homestead Strain is available.

**How Homestead Reds Are  
Housed and Fed**

(Continued from page 3)

o'clock with their crops full but with very little grain left in the litter.

**Pullets Confined**

The Connecticut type house pictured above allows plenty of fresh air and sunlight to enter the laying house. This type of house enables us to keep our Pullets confined the year around.

Clean Eggs and better sanitation is the result.

**Additional Care**

We watch the weight of our pullets in the traps during the Winter and keep them gaining in weight steadily until February 1st when they reach their full first year body weight.

In the Fall, we treat each pullet to prevent lice.

A small piece of vaseline and blue ointment (half and half) about the size of a pea is rubbed into the fluff just below the vent.

For mites, we paint the roosts and dropping boards once each year with carbolineum and the roosts are allowed to dry for 72 hours before birds are allowed to use them.

We do not treat Birds for sickness of any sort except that young stock is vaccinated for chicken pox each summer.

There are plenty of methods to use which will force greater Egg Production for a short period of months but the above method has produced steady year around results with the least amount of work for us.

**Mid-West Hatcherymen Select  
Homestead Strain  
for Flock Improvement**

A number of Quality Hatcherymen of the Mid-West have developed fine Flock Improvement Programs based on Bloodlines from selected R. O. P. Strains.

The Mid-West wants good all-around quality in heavy breeds—vigor, meat and eggs. This is the type of breeding which best meets the requirements for general farm flocks.

It is significant that these quality Hatcherymen have carefully searched the country over and in Reds have selected the Homestead Strain as best for their purposes.

The following Hatcheries have recently made substantial purchases from Homestead: Illinois Hatchery of Illinois. Sunny Croft Hatchery of Illinois. Jacobson Hatchery of Minnesota. Fluffydown Hatchery of Indiana. Wick's Modern Hatcheries of New Mexico.

**The New England Conference  
Dry Mash Formula for Layers**

- 200 lbs. Coarse Yellow Corn Meal
- 100 lbs. Wheat Bran
- 100 lbs. Wheat Flour Middlings
- 100 lbs. Ground Oats (38-40 per bu.)
- 50 lbs. Meat Scraps (not less than 50% Protein)
- 25 lbs. Fish Meal (not less than 50% Protein)
- 25 lbs. Alfalfa Leaf Meal (not more than 20% fibre)
- 25 lbs. Dried Skimmed Milk
- 15 lbs. Calcium Carbonate (ground oyster shell or limestone, not less than 96% calcium carbonate)
- 5 lbs. Common Salt

645 lbs. Total

Pullets should be fed in such a way as to assure consumption of approximately 50% mash and 50% scratch grain.

**Free Poultry Bulletins  
Connecticut State College  
Storrs, Connecticut**

We have always made extensive use of the Experimental Bulletins issued by the Connecticut State College. We believe that this information has saved us many hundreds of dollars during our years of Poultry Breeding. Below are listed Bulletins which we have found helpful.

**Extension Bulletin No. 138 — "The Connecticut Laying House."** This bulletin contains specifications and detailed description of our Laying House pictured on page 3 of this issue.

**Extension Bulletin No. 168—"Producing Quality Eggs."** In producing and caring for eggs this Bulletin outlines the methods which will add greatly to the Egg Income of the Poultry Farm, if followed closely.

**Bulletin No. 178—"Use of Disinfectants on the Poultry Farm."**

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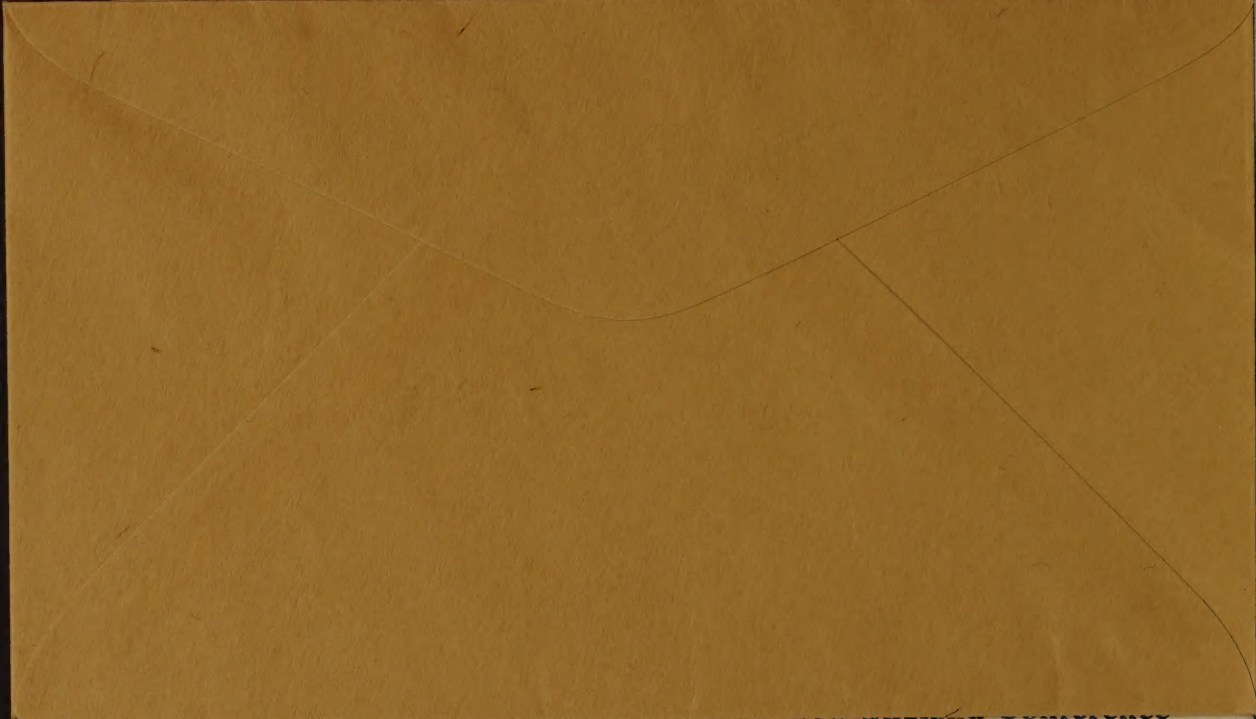
**HOMESTEAD FARM**

*E. J. and G. C. Morgan*

**NEWTOWN**

**Box 68**

**CONN.**





# **BREEDING COCKERELS**

for

## **GENERAL FLOCK IMPROVEMENT PURPOSES**

We are offering for sale this fall those cockerels from our Special Matings as listed on page 11 of our 1934 catalog. Also those cockerels from our R. O. P. matings that have slight defects which prevent their approval as R. O. P. males.

Every one of these cockerels is individually wing-banded and are from formally approved R. O. P. sires and dams, individually mated. They carry equally as good breeding as any cockerels that we have ever raised and for **general flock improvement purposes** would prove themselves very valuable.

We are selling these cockerels at \$30.00 per dozen or \$3.00 each in smaller lots.

Write us to-day your requirements on these cockerels and also ask for our 1935 catalog and prices on baby chicks.

# THE HISTORY OF THE

## REPUBLIC OF THE UNITED STATES

The history of the United States is a story of growth and change. From the first settlers to the present day, the nation has evolved through various stages of development. The early years were marked by exploration and the establishment of colonies. The American Revolution led to the birth of a new nation, and the subsequent years saw the expansion of territory and the growth of industry. The Civil War was a pivotal moment in the nation's history, leading to the abolition of slavery and the strengthening of the federal government. The 20th century brought significant changes, including the rise of the United States as a world power and the challenges of the Cold War. Today, the United States continues to shape the world and its future.